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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-fourth session

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Draft report

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007

Part two: biennial programme plan

(Item 3(b))

Programme 3
Disarmament

1. At its 10th meeting, on 15 June 2004, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/59/6 (Prog. 3)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced programme 3 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. The Committee welcomed the presentation of the programme narrative of programme 3. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of the Department of Disarmament Affairs, in particular its work on weapons of mass destruction. The Department was also encouraged to recognize the powerful and deadly effects of illicit small arms and light weapons. The view was expressed that there was no longer a need to single out nuclear weapons when referring to weapons of mass destruction. Concern was expressed that there was no programme narrative on the relationship between disarmament and development. The initiative of the

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Department to increase the use of the electronic media for dissemination and exchange of information, in particular to the general public particularly to those in the developing world, was welcomed.

4. The concern was expressed that important elements which were included in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 had been omitted. The views were also expressed that there was a lack of ambition in the logical framework; that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement should be further enhanced with a view to meeting the objectives; and that the usefulness was questionable of including a gender mainstreaming element in all of the subprogrammes in view of the action already being implemented by the United Nations as a whole.

5. The view was expressed that the maintenance and reinforcement of disarmament and non-proliferation and disarmament were two sides of the same issue, complementing each other, and should be pursued in tandem. It was stated that many multilateral treaties concerning disarmament, such as the biological and chemical weapons conventions, stipulated non-proliferation, and that proliferation, especially of weapons of mass destruction, was considered to constitute a threat to international peace and security, as affirmed in the Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and several resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. The view was also expressed that the importance of non-proliferation should be duly reflected in the biennial programme plan.

6. The view was also expressed that the programme plan should properly reflect the recommendations arising from the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, which were addressed not only to States but to the United Nations and other international organizations.

7. The following amendments were proposed to programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007.

Overall orientation

8. In paragraph 3.2, second sentence, delete the words "and relevant resolutions of the Security Council".

9. In paragraph 3.2, delete the final sentence.

10. In paragraph 3.5, add at the end of the paragraph the following new sentence: "The Department will also assist Member States in increasing understanding among them of the relationship between disarmament and development".

Subprogramme 1

11. In the title of subprogramme 1, after the word "disarmament", add the words "and non-proliferation".

12. Revise the objective of the Organization to read: "To promote arms limitation and disarmament, to make every effort to ensure that, when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable, and to increase expertise in the field of arms limitation and disarmament in more Member States, in particular developing countries".

or

13. In the objective of the Organization, after the word "disarmament", add the words "and non-proliferation".

or

14. Revise the objective of the Organization, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, to read: "To promote arms limitation and disarmament, to make every effort to ensure that, when multilateral agreements in the field of disarmament are negotiated, they will be universally acceptable, and to increase expertise in the field of arms limitation and disarmament in more Member States, in particular developing countries".

or

15. Revise the objective of the Organization to read: "To support multilateral negotiations and deliberations on arms limitation and disarmament agreements and provide support, as required by State parties, to the existing multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements".

16. In expected accomplishments of the Secretariat (a), replace the words "disarmament agreements" with the words "disarmament and non-proliferation agreements".

17. Replace indicators of achievement (a) and (b) with the indicator "Feedback from delegations as to the standard of organizational and substantive services provided".

18. In indicator of achievement (c) (i), after the words "relevant draft resolution", add the words "and of participants in the programme".

19. Add the following new indicator of achievement (c) (ii): "An increase in the number of applicants for the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme and greater support for the Disarmament Fellowship Programme by Member States".

20. In paragraph 3.7 (c), final sentence, after the word "disarmament", insert the words "and non-proliferation".

21. Add the following new paragraph 3.7 (f): "Provide Member States, International and non-governmental organizations updated information and advisory services on arms control and disarmament".

Subprogramme 2

22. Revise the objectives of the Organization, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, to read: "To promote the efforts for nuclear disarmament and to assist Member States, as requested, in supporting existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction".

or

23. In the objective of the Organization, after the word "disarmament", add the words "and non-proliferation".

24. In the objective of the Organization, after the word "systems", add the words "and to strive for their elimination, and to this end".

25. In the objective of the Organization, before the words "to contribute", delete the word "and".

26. Under expected accomplishments of the Secretariat (a), after the word "disarmament", add the words "and non-proliferation".

27. Revise indicator of achievement (a) to read: "Feedback from delegations as to the standard of organizational and substantive services provided".

28. Move expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b) to subprogramme 4.

29. Add the following new expected accomplishment: "(b) Enhance the assistance in the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conference and meetings of state parties to multilateral legally binding agreements related to weapons of mass destruction".

30. In expected accomplishment (b), delete the words "as well as on the potential threat of use of weapons of mass destruction and related materials in terrorist acts".

31. Add the following new indicator of achievement: "(b) An increase in the number of countries receiving assistance in the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conferences and meetings of state parties to multilateral legally binding agreements related to weapons of mass destruction".

32. Revise paragraph 3.8 (a) to read: "Assisting and supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building for reducing and moving towards the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, as well as in global efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation and to prevent the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists".

or

33. Revise paragraph 3.8 (a) to read: "Assisting and supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the area of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and on their delivery systems, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their endeavours in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

34. In paragraph 3.8 (b), after the words "mass destruction", add the words "and their delivery systems".

35. In paragraph 3.8 (b), delete the words "and universalization".

36. In paragraph 3.8 (c), after the word "cooperation", add the words "in accordance with existing arrangements".

Subprogramme 3

37. In the objective of the Organization, after the words "security posed by", add the words "the illicit trade".

or

38. Revise the objective of the Organization, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, to read: "To promote greater mutual confidence between Member States in the field of conventional arms and to address the destabilizing and

excessive accumulation of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons".

39. In indicator of achievement (b) (i), replace the word "maintenance" with the word "increase".

40. In indicator of achievement (b) (i), replace the words "expansion of the scope" with the words "further improvement of the functioning".

41. In indicators of achievement (b) (ii), replace the words "Maintenance of" with the words "Increase in".

42. Revise paragraph 3.9 (f) to read: "Supporting the continued operation and further development of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms".

Subprogramme 4

43. Revise the objective of the Organization, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, to read: "To provide Member States and the public with objective, impartial and up-to-date information on disarmament activities".

or

44. In the objective of the Organization, after the word "disarmament", insert the words "and non-proliferation".

45. Insert the text of subprogramme 2, expected accomplishment (b), to read: "(d) Enhanced use by Member States of information on issues relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, including new trends and developments, as well as on potential threat of use of mass destruction and related materials in terrorists acts".

46. In indicator of achievement (b), after the word "regional", insert the word "multilateral".

47. Add a new expected accomplishment to read: "(d) Better preparedness of States to undertake multilateral deliberations and negotiations in the field of disarmament".

48. Add a new indicator of achievement to read: "(d) (i) A better flow of factual and objective information regarding various aspects of disarmament and easier access by end-users to such information (status of treaties, treaty obligations, progress in negotiations etc.)".

49. Insert the text of subprogramme 2, indicator of achievement (b), to read: "(d) (ii) An increase in the number of requests to the Branch for background information, policy and analytical advice; (d) (iii) An increase in the number of visits (page views) to the Branch's web page".

50. In paragraph 3.10 (a), at the end of the paragraph add the words "and non-proliferation".

Subprogramme 5

51. Revise the objective of the Organization, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, to read: "To promote and enhance international efforts towards global disarmament and international peace and security through the

support and promotion of regional disarmament efforts and initiatives, using approaches freely arrived at among the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of States for self-defence and the specific characteristics of each region".

52. In expected accomplishment (c), replace the word "landmines" with the words "disarmament and non-proliferation".

or

53. Delete expected accomplishment (c).

54. Delete indicator of achievement (c).

or

55. In indicator of achievement (c) (i), at the end of the indicator add the words "particularly in the most mine-affected regions".

56. In indicator of achievement (c) (ii), after the words "number of requests for", insert the words "and positive feedback on".

Legislative mandates

57. Add the following General Assembly resolution:

58/521	Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

Conclusions and recommendations

58. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly allocate programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007 to the First Committee, for its review and action, and for subsequent submission to the Fifth Committee, for its consideration, in the context of the overall proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007 under the item entitled "Programme planning".